

## Section II. (Amendments to the Claims)

Please amend claims 1-13, as set out below in the listing of claims 1-13 of the application.

1. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ A method of storing and/or transporting *in vitro* two-dimensional cell cultures, which comprises the following steps:
  - a) coating a cell culture that is ~~immobilised~~ immobilized on an asymmetric support with a gelatine solution in culture medium at a concentration of between 1 and 5 %, said cell culture comprising cells in suitable functional state,
  - b) solidifying the gelatine added to the support at a temperature of between 15 and 25°C, and
  - c) storing and/or transporting the cell culture at a temperature of between 15 and 25°C for a period of up to 96 hours.
2. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ A method according to claim 1, which comprises the additional steps:
  - a) liquefaction of the gelatine,
  - b) elimination of the gelatine and substitution of same by a culture medium, and
  - c) incubation of the culture.
3. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ A method according to claim 1 ~~the preceding claims,~~ ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the two-dimensional cell culture is differentiated, polarised and is functionally active.
4. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ A method according to claim 3, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the cell culture is selected from among: Huvec cells, grown to confluence on a collagen support and differentiated Caco-2 cells, ~~or any and other type types~~ of cells capable of growing in single layers ~~such as fibroblasts, tumoral, hepatic, endothelial cells, etc.~~
5. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ A method according to claim 1 ~~the preceding claims,~~ ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said gelatine solution comprises a 2.5% gelatine solution is used.
6. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ A method according to claim 1 ~~the preceding claims,~~ ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the gelatine is solidified at a temperature of between 15 and 25°C, for a period of between 30 minutes and 12 hours.

7. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ A method according to claim 1 ~~the preceding claims,~~  
~~characterised in that wherein~~ the asymmetric support is comprises a transwell-type support.
8. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ A method according to claim 2 ~~the preceding claims,~~  
~~characterised in that wherein~~ the gelatine liquefaction is performed between 35 and 40°C for a  
period of 1 to 4 hours.
9. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ A method according to claim 8, ~~characterised in that wherein~~  
the gelatine liquefaction is performed at 37°C.
10. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ A method according to claim 2 ~~the preceding claims,~~  
~~characterised in that wherein~~ the subsequent incubation of the culture is performed at between 35  
and 40°C for a period of between 1 hour and 8 days.
11. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ A method according to claim 10, claim 2 ~~the preceding~~  
~~claims~~ the culture is ~~subsequently~~ incubated at 37°C.
12. (Currently amended) ~~Kit~~ A kit for storing and/or transporting *in vitro* two-dimensional cell  
cultures according to ~~any of claims 1-11~~ claim 1, comprising:
  - (i) an asymmetric support, and
  - (ii) a gelatine solution in culture medium at a concentration of between 1 and 5%.
13. (Currently amended) ~~Kit,~~ A kit according to claim 12, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the  
asymmetric support is comprises a transwell-type support.